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Government of Kerala
2026

Regn.No. KERBIL/2012/45073
dated 05-09-2012 with RNI
Reg No.KL/TV(N)/634/2021-2023

കേരള ഗസറ്റ്
KERALA GAZETTE
അസാധാരണം
EXTRAORDINARY

ആധികാരികമായി പ്രസിദ്ധപ്പെടുത്തുന്നത്
PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

വാല്യം 15
Vol. XV

തിരുവനന്തപുരം, ശനി
Thiruvananthapuram, Saturday

2026 മാർച്ച് 07
07th March 2026
1201 കുംഭം 23
23rd Kumbham 1201
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നമ്പർ
No. 1035

SECRETARIAT OF THE KERALA LEGISLATURE

NOTIFICATION

No.KLS/943/2026-Legin1 *Dated, Thiruvananthapuram, 06th March 2026.*

THE KERALA NATIVITY CARD BILL, 2026 together with the Statement of Objects and Reasons, Memorandum Regarding Delegated Legislation and Financial Memorandum is published, under rule 69(5) of the rules of procedure and conduct of business in the Kerala Legislative Assembly.

Shaji C. Baby
Secretary-in-Charge

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Fifteenth Kerala Legislative Assembly
Bill No. 299

[Translation in English of "2026-ലെ കേരള നേറ്റിവിറ്റി കാർഡ് ബിൽ" published under the authority of the Governor.]

THE KERALA NATIVITY CARD BILL, 2026

A

Bill

to provide for the issue of a Nativity Card to each person by adopting the form of nativity certificate issued at present by the Government of Kerala, to certify that a person is a Keralite, and to allow to use the same as an accepted authoritative document for various services rendered by the Government of Kerala, and for social requirements and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

Preamble.—WHEREAS, to provide for the issue of a Nativity Card to each person by adopting the form of nativity certificate issued at present by the Government of Kerala, to certify that a person is a Keralite, and to allow to use the same as an accepted authoritative document for various services rendered by the Government of Kerala, and for social requirements and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto;

BE it enacted in the Seventy-seventh Year of the Republic of India, as follows:-

1. *Short title and commencement.*— (1) This Act may be called the Kerala Nativity Card Act, 2026.

(2) It shall come into force on such date as the Government may, by notification in the Gazette, appoint.

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2. *Definitions.*— In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,-

(a) "Collector" means Collector of the district having jurisdiction over the respective area;

(b) "Government" means the Government of Kerala;

(c) "native" means those who born in Kerala and not received foreign citizenship and one of their ancestors were born in Kerala and not received foreign citizenship.

Explanation.-1. Those who received foreign citizenship shall not be eligible for nativity card.

2. Nativity Card shall become invalid if foreign citizenship is received after obtaining the nativity card.

3. Where parents or ancestors have been outside Kerala in connection with their employment or livelihood or for other reasons, those born there and not received foreign citizenship shall be deemed to be a native;

(d) " nativity card" means the document to prove as a native under this Act;

(e) "person" means a person who submits an application for nativity card under this Act;

(f) "prescribed" means prescribed by rules made under this Act;

(g) "Revenue Divisional Officer" means the Revenue Divisional Officer having jurisdiction over the respective area;

(h) "Tahsildar" means the Tahsildar having jurisdiction over the respective area;

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(i) "Village Officer" means the Village Officer having jurisdiction over the respective area.

3. *Issue of Nativity Card.*— (1) Any person who requires a nativity card under this Act shall submit an application before the authority concerned in the prescribed manner and in the prescribed form along with the documents and fee, as may be prescribed.

(2) The authority for issuing nativity card shall be Tahsildar and village shall be the unit for issuing the same.

(3) An application received under sub-section (1), after complying the prescribed procedures within the specified time, shall be disposed of by the authority concerned.

(4) In case where it is decided to issue nativity card as per sub-section (3), it shall be issued in the manner and format, as may be prescribed.

4. *Issue of duplicate Nativity Card.*— Where a nativity card issued as per section 3 is irrecoverably lost, destroyed, damaged, mutilated or rendered useless, the Tahsildar concerned may, upon a written request by the person to whom such card was issued, issue a duplicate nativity card to the applicant after making or cause to make necessary enquiries, subject to the conditions and on payment of a specified fee, as may be prescribed.

5. *Other information to be incorporated.*— In addition to the existing information, such information the Government may direct, from time to time, may also

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be included in the nativity card.

6. *Modification of entries in Nativity Card.*— (1) Where any person, who has obtained the nativity card, considers that any change is needed with regard to the entries in it, he shall submit an application to the Tahsildar along with necessary documents in such form and on payment of such fee, as may be prescribed.

(2) Before passing an order upon an application under sub-section (1), the Tahsildar shall comply such procedure, as may be prescribed, and shall also give a reasonable opportunity of being heard to the persons concerned. If the Tahsildar is satisfied that modification, as applied for is necessary, he shall pass an order accordingly and shall issue nativity card with necessary modifications.

(3) Where the Tahsildar is satisfied that no changes as required by the applicant is to be made, after recording the reasons, he shall reject the application.

(4) The procedures under sub-section (2) and (3) shall be disposed of in such manner and within such period, as may be prescribed, and the parties concerned shall be informed thereof in writing.

7. *Persons to furnish information.*— (1) Any person whose details are required to be entered in the nativity card under this Act, such person shall be bound, on the requisition of the Tahsildar for preparing or modifying the entries in the nativity card, to furnish or produce the relevant information or documents for inspection within such time as he may specify in such notice or within such further time extended by him and all such information furnished or produced shall be within his knowledge or possession or

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under his authority.

(2) Where any information is furnished or any document is produced as required under sub-section (1), the Tahsildar or the officer authorised by him in this behalf, shall give a written acknowledgement thereof to the person producing or furnishing the same and shall endorse on such document a note under his signature stating the fact of its production and the date thereof.

8. *Register of Nativity Cards.*— (1) After the commencement of this Act, Tahsildar shall maintain a register of nativity cards issued under this Act at Taluk office.

(2) Every such register shall contain the following particulars, namely:-

(a) the name of the person, permanent address, name and address of the parents, nativity card number;

(b) any other particulars, as may be prescribed.

(3) This shall be a permanent register and the entries in such register shall be modified in accordance with the provisions of this Act or the rules made thereunder.

9. *Appeal.*— Any person aggrieved by an order passed by the Tahsildar under this Act or in case an application is rejected under sub-section (3) of section 3, may file an appeal before the Revenue Divisional Officer concerned in such manner and within such period, as may be prescribed:

Provided that if the Appellate Authority is satisfied that there was sufficient cause for not filing the appeal in time by the appellant, he may admit the appeal even after the expiry of such time.

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10. *Revision.*— The Collector may, upon an application by the party, review a decision or order passed by the Revenue Divisional Officer as per section 9 of the Act and the same may be cancelled or modified:

Provided that no such decision or order shall be reviewed, revised, cancelled or modified without giving a reasonable opportunity of being heard to the person aggrieved by the decision or order.

11. *Penalty.*— Any person who is required to furnish any information under this Act, furnishes any information which he knows or has reason to believe it to be false, shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three months or with fine which may extend to five thousand rupees or with both.

12. *Cognizance of offences.*— No court shall take cognizance of any offence punishable under this Act, except on a complaint in writing made by an officer authorised in this behalf by the Government.

13. *Protection of action taken in good faith.*— No suit, prosecution or any other legal proceedings shall lie against any officer or authority for anything which is done or intented to be done in good faith in accordance with the provisions of this Act, without the prior permission of the Government.

14. *Power of the Government.*— (1) The Government may, by notification, specify the circumstances under which the nativity card shall be used as an authoritative document along with other documents for various purposes by the Government departments.

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(2) When a notification under sub-section (1) is issued, the officers of the Government department or the Local Institutions concerned shall accept the entries in the nativity card as an authoritative document along with various certificates mentioned in such notification.

15. *Power to remove difficulties.*— (1) If any difficulty arises in giving effect to any of the provisions of this Act, the Government may, by order, not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, remove such difficulty:

Provided that no such order shall be issued after the expiry of two years from the date of commencement of this Act.

(2) Every order issued under sub-section (1) shall be laid before the Legislative Assembly, as early as possible, by the Government.

16. *Power to make rules.*— (1) The Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, make rules, either prospectively or retrospectively, to carry out the provisions of this Act.

(2) Every rule made under this Act shall be laid, as soon as may be after it is made, before the Legislature while it is in session for a total period of fourteen days, which may be comprised in one session or in two successive sessions and if before the expiry of the session in which it is so laid or the session immediately following, the Legislative Assembly makes any modification in the rule or decides that the rule should not be made, the rule shall thereafter have effect only in such modified form or be of no effect, as the case may be; so however that any such modification or annulment shall be without prejudice to the validity of anything previously done under that rule.

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STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

At present, if a situation arises where any person needs to prove his nativity the nativity certificate issued by the village officer concerned is used. The provisions for issuing nativity certificate at present is based on Government Order. Instead, the Government intends to issue a legally valid nativity card to each person adopting the form of nativity certificate issued by the Government of Kerala. It provides for certifying a person as a Keralite and for accepting it as an authoritative document for services rendered by the Government of Kerala and for social requirements.

2. The Bill seeks to achieve the above object.

FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM

The Bill, if enacted and brought into operation, would not involve any additional expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of the State.

MEMORANDUM REGARDING DELEGATED LEGISLATION

1. Sub-clause (2) of clause 1 of the Bill, seeks to empower the Government to appoint the date of commencement of the Act.

2. Clause 3 of the Bill, seeks to empower the Government to prescribe,-

(i) sub-clause (1), the manner of submitting an application for nativity card, application form, documents and fees along with the application;

(ii) sub-clause (3), the procedures for disposing the application received as per sub-clause (1);

(iii) sub-clause (4), the format and manner of issuing the nativity card.

3. Clause 4 of the Bill, seeks to empower the Government to prescribe the conditions for issuing duplicate nativity card.

4. Clause 6 of the Bill, seeks to empower the Government to prescribe ,-

(i) sub-clause (1), the application form and fees for modifying the entries in the nativity card;

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(ii) sub-clause (2), the procedures to be complied by the Tahsildar before passing an order upon an application under sub-clause (1);

(iii) sub-clause (4), the procedures under sub-clauses (2) and (3) and the period for disposing.

5. Clause 8 of the Bill, seeks to empower the Government to prescribe any other particulars to be included in the register of nativity cards maintained in the Taluk office.

6. Clause 9 of the Bill, seeks to empower the Government to prescribe the manner and period for filing the appeal in case an application is rejected under sub-clause (3) of clause 3 or upon an order passed by the Tahsildhar.

7. Clause 14 of the Bill, seeks to empower the Government to issue notification specifying the circumstances to use the nativity card as an authoritative document along with other documents.

8. Clause 15 of the Bill, seeks to empower the Government to issue order for removing the difficulty, if any, arises in giving effect to the provisions of the Act.

9. Clause 16 of the Bill, seeks to empower the Government to make rules, either prospectively or retrospectively, by notification to carry out provisions of the Act.

10. The matters in respect of which rules are to be made or notifications or orders are to be issued are matters of procedure and are of routine or administrative in nature. Further, such rules, notifications and orders after they are made are subject to the scrutiny of the Legislative Assembly. Thus, the delegation of legislative power is of a normal character.

K.RAJAN.

PUBLISHED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT OF GOVERNMENT PRESSES
AT THE GOVERNMENT CENTRAL PRESS, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, 2026

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